

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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O P 061914 Z APR 73

FM USDEL SALT TWO II

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1928

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USDEL SALT TWO II 0146

EXDIS SALT

DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT FOR SECDEF

E. O. 11652: XGDSI

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: SEMENOV STATEMENT, APRIL 6, 1973

FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSLATION OF THE STATEMENT PRESENTED
BY MINISTER SEMENOV, FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1973.

SEMENOV STATEMENT, APRIL 6, 1973

THE GREAT RESPONSIBILITY AND IMPORTANCE OF THE PRESENT
PHASE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN NOTED BY THE
DELEGATIONS. SIMILAR PRONOUNCEMENTS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE
BY THE HIGHEST OFFICIALS OF BOTH STATES.

ALMOST ONE MONTH HAS PASSED NOW SINCE THE BEGINNING
OF OUR WORK IN GENEVA. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE SECOND
STAGE OF THE SOVIET- AMERICAN NEGOTIATIONS, THE PURPOSE OF
WHICH IS TO WORK OUT A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE UNDERSTANDING ON
MORE COMPLETE MEASURES LIMITING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS,
IS A NEW AND IN A CERTAIN SENSE MORE DIFFICULT STATE.

BOTH SIDES ARE EQUALLY INTERESTED IN ITS SUCCESS, AS
INDEED IS THE WHOLE WORLD. THEREFORE, APPRAISING THE ON-
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GOING NEGOTIATIONS FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOVIET- AMERICAN RELATIONS AND THE STRENGTHENING OF PEACE AND SECURITY, IT IS OF NO PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS WHICH SIDE WILL MAKE A GREATER CONTRIBUTION TO ACHIEVEMENT OF SUCCESS. BOTH SIDES AND THE WHOLE WORLD WILL BE WINNERS.

THE SOVIET SIDE IS CONVINCED THAT AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE IS A REAL BASIS FOR ACHIEVING PROGRESS IN OUR COMMON ENDEAVOR. THERE IS A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR THAT-- THE TREATY BETWEEN THE USSR AND THE U. S. A. ON THE LIMITATION OF ABM SYSTEMS AND THE INTERIM AGREEMENT ON CERTAIN MEASURES WITH RESPECT TO THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, WHICH ARE IN FORCE. IMPORTANT ADVANCES ARE BEING MADE IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR STATES ON THE BASIS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOSCOW AGREEMENTS OF MAY 1972. SIGNIFICANT NEW STEPS IN SOVIET- AMERICAN RELATIONS MAY BECOME POSSIBLE AS A RESULT OF DEVELOPMENT IN THIS DIRECTION.

THIS ALSO CREATES MORE FAVORABLE CONDITIONS FOR MOVING AHEAD TOWARD FINDING MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE WAYS TO ACHIEVE AN UNDERSTANDING ON FURTHER LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS.

IT IS NOT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND THE POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THAT KIND OF MOVEMENT. MEASURES WHICH LEAD TO IMPROVEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE, TO THE STRENGTHENING OF TRUST BETWEEN STATES AND THE STRENGTHENING OF PEACE AND UNIVERSAL SECURITY. IT MAY BE SAID THAT THERE IS NO GREATER GOAL IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES IN OUR TIME.

IT IS QUITE NATURAL THAT THE PEOPLES OF OUR COUNTRIES AND, INDEED, THE PEOPLES OF OTHER STATES DESIRE TO HAVE A CERTAIN DEGREE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS, AND EVEN DURING THE CURRENT YEAR, 1973, AT THAT. THIS WOULD BE ENCOURAGING PROOF OF THE FACT THAT WE CAN MOVE FORWARD AND OVERCOME COMPLEXITIES OF INTERESTS, WHICH INDISPUTABLY HAVE IMPORTANT SIGNIFICANCE FOR MANKIND. I AM NOT EVEN SPEAKING OF THE FACT THAT THE DEFINITION OF MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE WAYS TO DEVELOP OUR NEGOTIATIONS WOULD OF ITSELF BE IMPORTANT FOR BETTER MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE POSITIONS OF THE SIDES ON THE QUESTIONS UNDER DISCUSSION.

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IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS INSTRUCTIONS THE USSR DELEGATION HAS EXPRESSED CONCRETE CONSIDERATIONS ON THE POSSIBLE NATURE OF OUR WORK, HAVING IN MIND TO ENSURE A PRODUCTIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE SITUATION AS IT HAS DEVELOPED AT THESE NEGOTIATIONS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PROBLEMS UNDER DISCUSSION, THE SOVIET SIDE BELIEVES IT ADVISABLE TO APPLY THE NECESSARY EFFORTS IN GENEVA TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF AN UNDERSTANDING ON MORE COMPLETE MEASURES LIMITING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS. THIS QUESTION MUST BECOME THE SUBJECT OF MOST CAREFUL AND SERIOUS CONSIDERATION.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USSR HAS INSTRUCTED US TO TABLE A DOCUMENT ENTITLED BASIC PRINCIPLES OF AN UNDERSTANDING ON MORE COMPLETE MEASURES LIMITING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS. THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DRAFTED TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE DISCUSSIONS HELD NOT ONLY AT THE CURRENT PHASE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, BUT AT PREVIOUS PHASES AS WELL. EXEMPT-3. JOHNSON

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ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1929

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S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 USDEL SALT TWO II 0146

EXDIS SALT

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THE SOVIET SIDE IS CONVINCED THAT IT CONSTITUTES A GOOD BASIS FOR ENSURING REAL PROGRESS IN THE SEARCH FOR WAYS

TOWARD FURTHER LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS. IT FULLY CORRESPONDS TO THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL SECURITY AND INADMISSIBILITY OF UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE, WHICH HAS BEEN ACCEPTED AT OUR NEGOTIATIONS, AND TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE STRATEGIC SITUATION IN ITS ENTIRETY. THE DOCUMENT PROVIDES FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF CONSIDERING OTHER PROPOSALS AS WELL, HAVING AS A POINT OF DEPARTURE THE AGREED POLICY OF BOTH STATES TO CURB THE RACE IN STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, TO LIMIT THEM AND SUBSEQUENTLY TO REDUCE THEM ON THE BASIS OF THE AFOREMENTIONED PRINCIPLE.

THE USSR DELEGATION HAS THE NECESSARY INSTRUCTIONS TO DISCUSS MOST CAREFULLY EACH OF THE POINTS CONTAINED IN THE DOCUMENT, KEEPING IN MIND THAT IT IS ADVISABLE TO REACH MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS IN THEIR REGARD. AS ALREADY STATED, WE ARE ALSO PREPARED TO DISCUSS OTHER PROPOSALS WHICH ARE IN ACCORD WITH THE GOALS AND TASKS OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USSR PROCEEDS FROM THE PREMISE THAT THE NEW PROPOSAL OF THE SOVIET UNION, WHICH IS AIMED AT PRODUCTIVE AND BUSINESSLIKE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR
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NEGOTIATIONS AND TRIES TO ACCOMMODATE THE PERTINENT CONSIDERATIONS AND DESIRES OF THE U. S. SIDE, WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE U. S. AND GIVEN MOST CAREFUL AND FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION. THE SOVIET SIDE ALSO EXPECTS THAT THE CONSTRUCTIVE SOVIET PROPOSAL WILL MEET WITH A RECIPROCAL RESPONSE; THIS WILL CREATE MORE FAVORABLE CONDITIONS AT OUR NEGOTIATIONS FOR PROGRESS IN WORKING OUT AN UNDERSTANDING ON MORE COMPLETE MEASURES LIMITING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS.

PERMIT ME TO READ THE TEXT OF THE DOCUMENT BEING TABLED BY THE SOVIET UNION.

(THE TEXT OF THE DOCUMENT IS READ AND HANDED OVER).
(SEE SEPTEL).

THE SOVIET SIDE IS CONVINCED THAT, GIVEN A CONSTRUCTIVE AND BUSINESSLIKE APPROACH BY THE SIDES, THERE ARE REALISTIC GROUNDS TO EXPECT AGREEMENT ON THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE AFOREMENTIONED UNDERSTANDING AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME. THIS WOULD BE A SERIOUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOVIET- AMERICAN RELATIONS AND TO THE CAUSE OF STRENGTHENING PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, AND WOULD CREATE A BASIS TO CONTINUE THE WORK OF OUR DELEGATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE VIII OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT, AND TO CROWN IT WITH COMPLETE SUCCESS.

OF COURSE, THE USSR DELEGATION IS PREPARED IN THE
COURSE OF OUR FURTHER WORK TO PROVIDE NECESSARY CLARIFICA-
TIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DOCUMENT TABLED. EXEMPT-3 JOHNSON

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